

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants:	Liepold et al.	Examiner:	Tietjen, Marina Annette
Application No.:	10/566,611	Group Art Unit:	3753
Confirmation No:	7406	Docket:	1350-3 PCT/US
Filed:	January 31, 2006	Dated:	January 4, 2010
For:	A VALVE		

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**Certificate of EFS-Web Transmission**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office via the Office's electronic filing system

Dated: January 4, 2010

Signature: John S. Sopko /John S. Sopko/

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.111**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated August 4, 2009, a reply to which is due January 4, 2010 with a two-month extension of time, a petition for which is filed concurrently herewith, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this submission.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this submission.